

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are in this application and presented for consideration. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 14. Applicant has canceled Claims 3-13 and 15-20.

Claims 1-3, 8 and 13-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ishikawa et al. (US 6,656,602 B1).

Ishikawa et al. discloses a print layer formed on a gas barrier coating film. The gas barrier coating composition comprises a polyvinyl alcohol resin and at least one member selected from the group consisting of a metal alcoholate represented by $R^1_mM(OR^2)_n$, a hydrolysate of the metal alcoholate, a condensate of the metal alcoholate, a hydrolysate of the chelate compound, and a metal acylate. M represents a metal atom. R^1 , which may be either identical to or different from each other, represents an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a phenyl group, and m and n are each integers of 0 or more and $m+n$ is a valence of M. The polyvinyl alcohol resin includes at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol and an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer. The polyvinyl alcohol resin includes an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer having a melt flow index of 1 to 50 g/10 minutes under conditions of 210°C. and a load of 21.168 N.

Ishikawa et al. fails to disclose the present invention as recited in newly amended Claims 1 and 14. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 14 according to the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner. Claims 4-7, 9-12 and 17-20 have been rewritten in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, it is Applicant's position that the claims are now allowable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully

requests that the Examiner allow Claims 1 and 14 as now presented.

Further and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,



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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-
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